

# ***IOWA OUTDOORS: Special Edition***

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources**

**[www.iowadnr.com](http://www.iowadnr.com)**

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**March 27, 2003**

1. DNR Hatcheries Begin Stocking Trout
2. State Preserves Advisory Board to Meet April 4 in Glenwood
3. Volunteers Sought for Statewide Prairie Rescue

## **DNR HATCHERIES BEGIN STOCKING TROUT**

MANCHESTER – The Iowa DNR will begin stocking catchable sized trout in 45 of northeast Iowa's 105 trout streams the week of April 1. The stockings will continue through November.

Dave Marolf, manager of the DNR's Manchester trout hatchery, said more than 350,000 catchable-size trout will be stocked in a nine-county area this year. While most streams are stocked weekly, some streams are stocked once a month and others up to three times per week. Stocking frequency depends on stream habitat, fishing pressure and type of fishery desired at each stream.

The monthly stocking schedules are posted on the DNR's website at [www.iowadnr.com](http://www.iowadnr.com) or are available by contacting one of the trout hatcheries. Weekly stocking updates are available 24-hours a day by phoning the trout rearing facilities at Manchester (563-927-5736), Big Spring (563-245-1699) or Decorah (563-382-3315) beginning the week of April 1. The *Iowa Trout Fishing Guide* includes a detailed map of the trout stream locations and is available at DNR facilities and many license vendors.

Iowa has a continuous open season on trout with a daily limit of five and a possession limit of 10. To possess trout, resident anglers who are required to have a license must pay an \$11 trout fee in addition to their regular fishing license and fish habitat fee (if required). Non-residents must pay \$13.50 for their annual trout fee. Iowa residents under 16 years of age and non-residents under 14 who possess trout must either pay the trout fee or fish with a licensed adult who has paid the trout fee. If fishing with a licensed adult, the combined catch cannot exceed the daily limit of five trout. Persons with a lifetime fishing license must purchase a trout fee annually to possess trout. Trout fees can be paid anywhere licenses are sold. No trout fee is required during Free Fishing Days (June 6, 7 and 8).

Anglers who have paid the trout fishing fee and who would like a trout stamp can get one free by sending a vendor-provided post card to the DNR office in Des Moines. Trout stamps can also be purchased directly at the Des Moines office.

In addition to the 45 areas stocked with catchable trout, Iowa has six streams with special regulations. These regulations are designed to either protect or enhance existing natural populations of trout. Posted areas on each of these six streams restrict anglers to artificial lures only. Depending on the stream or location, regulations will require anglers to either release all trout of certain species or trout of a certain length, unharmed. Anglers should be aware of the specific special regulations on the following six streams: Ensign Hollow and Bloody Run in Clayton County; Spring Branch in Delaware County; French Creek and Waterloo Creek in Allamakee County; and, South Pine Creek in Winneshiek County.

The DNR urges anglers to be considerate of landowners because many trout streams are on private property. Anglers should always clean up their litter, not block driveways and use common-sense courtesy. Although arrangements have been made by the DNR with landowners to allow public fishing on privately owned, stocked streams, always ask permission if you are unsure of these locations.

**For more information, contact Marolf at 563-927-3276.**

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## **STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD TO MEET APRIL 4 IN GLENWOOD**

GLENWOOD – The State Preserves Advisory Board, of the Iowa DNR, will meet at 8:30 a.m., April 4, in the Glenwood Resource Visitors Center. The meeting is open to the public.

Board members and DNR staff will meet at 12:30 p.m. on April 3 to tour the Glenwood Resource Center grounds and a private prairie in southern Mills County. The tour is also open to the public.

Members of the State Preserves Advisory Board are Robin Fortney, Tim Sproul, Scott Moats, Dr. Neil Bernstein, Dr. Laura Jackson and Kathy Gourley. The director of the DNR is Jeffrey Vonk.

The following is the April meeting agenda.

- Approve Agenda
- Approve Minutes of January Meeting
- Glenwood Resource Center Study
- Hartman Reserve – Revised Area Management Plan
- Slayton Round Barn – Potential Historic Preserve
- Steele Prairie – Drainage Options
- Research Requests

- Study of the ecology of grasses and fungi at Hayden and Steele prairies, University of Pennsylvania
- Soils Study at Kalsow Prairie, USDA – ARS
- Requests for Funding
- Ada Hayden Herbarium
- Friends of the Mines of Spain
- Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- Selection of Research and Inventory Proposals
- Open Discussion

**For more information, contact Daryl Howell at 515-281-8524.**

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## **VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR STATEWIDE PRAIRIE RESCUE**

DES MOINES - A coalition of conservation groups is holding a statewide spring prairie rescue. Volunteers are needed to help "rescue" prairie sites around the state.

This year's partners include: Audubon Iowa, The Nature Conservancy, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, AmeriCorps, the Loess Hills Preservation Society, Iowa Prairie Network and the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation.

Prairie is an important part of Iowa's natural heritage. Prairie once covered nearly 80 percent of the state, but 99.9 percent of Iowa's original prairie is now gone. Though Iowa's prairies were once self-sustaining, many remaining prairies require human intervention to stay healthy.

Prairie rescue volunteers will clear invading brush and trees from Iowa's prairie remnants and conduct other protection activities. On-site experts will provide guidance and prairie education. This is a chance for adults and kids to learn and help.

Most events are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., but volunteers are welcome to sign up for shorter periods. Participants should dress in comfortable *work clothes*, and if possible, bring *work gloves* and cutting tools like *bow saws* or *loppers*. Check with the site's contact person for specific details.

For more information or to sign up, see the Prairie Rescue website at [www.inhf.org/prairierescue 2003.htm](http://www.inhf.org/prairierescue2003.htm) or click the link on the Iowa DNR website. Then get in touch with the contact person for the appropriate site.

**For more information, contact Michael Pecenka at 515-281-6271, or Kristin Kuennen at 515-281-3134.**

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